



MEDIA RELEASE

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INSURANCE

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CONTACT: KELLY M. BROCKMAN
OR SHANNON ASHFORD
615.741.6007 (OFFICE)

THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INSURANCE SECURITIES DIVISION FOCUSES ON FRAUD PREVENTION

Nashville, TN - - The Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance Securities Division has joined America Saves Week to encourage Tennessee residents not only to save but also to protect their assets through fraud prevention.

America Saves Week partners aim to motivate consumers to financial action by committing to save, invest and build wealth. The Securities Division calls on Tennessee residents to participate in America Saves Week events to discover how they can save, invest and most importantly safeguard their assets from investment fraud.

"During America Saves Week, investors of all ages can learn firsthand how to guard their savings from investment fraud by becoming an informed investor," said Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance Commissioner Leslie Newman.

The Securities Division recommends these fraud prevention tips for savers:

- INVESTigate Before you Invest. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.
- Check out the licensing and background of anyone dealing with investments.
- Never pay cash or wire money for an investment.
- Take your time. Don't give in to high-pressure sales tactics.
- If you've been a victim of fraud contact us at 1-800-863.9117 or Securities1@state.tn.us, or visit our website: www.state.tn.us/commerce/securities.

Commissioner Newman urges investors to contact The Securities Division with any questions about an investment product, broker or adviser, before making an investment.

"Unfortunately anyone with a savings account, whether it's \$500 or \$500,000 may be a target of con artists," said Newman. "That's why it is vital to defend your nest egg from investment fraud."

The Department of Commerce and Insurance and the Securities Division is pleased to join other partners such as the Consumer Federation of America, North American Securities Administrators Association (NASAA), Federal Reserve Bank, United Way of America, Department of Defense and others to promote savings during this week. For more information on America Saves Week 2008, visit http://www.americasaves.org/national/saves_week.asp.

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DAVY CROCKETT TOWER, 5TH FLOOR
500 JAMES ROBERTSON PARKWAY
NASHVILLE, TN 37243
615.741.2241